



A NEW ADAM STRANGE ADVENTURE!

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12¢

DEC.
NO. 96

MYSTERY IN SPACE

**"MYSTERY of the
MILLION-DOLLAR BEASTS!"**

AND THE **DIAMOND
TUSK** OF THE
LANCITE BEAST
WILL FINISH HIM
OFF!

THE
PELLET-FISH'S
PEARLS HAVE
DISARMED
SPACE RANGER!



"CHILDREN of TOMORROW!"

CELEBRATING UNITED NATIONS DAY, OCTOBER 24th



AWARE OF THESE SUB-STANDARD CONDITIONS, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADOPTED THE **DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF A CHILD**, WHICH STATES, AMONG OTHER PRINCIPLES, THAT...

"THE CHILD SHALL ENJOY SPECIAL PROTECTION, AND SHALL BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES AND FACILITIES, BY LAW AND BY OTHER MEANS, TO ENABLE HIM TO DEVELOP PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, MORALLY, SPIRITUALLY AND SOCIALLY IN A HEALTHY AND NORMAL MANNER AND IN CONDITIONS OF FREEDOM AND DIGNITY."

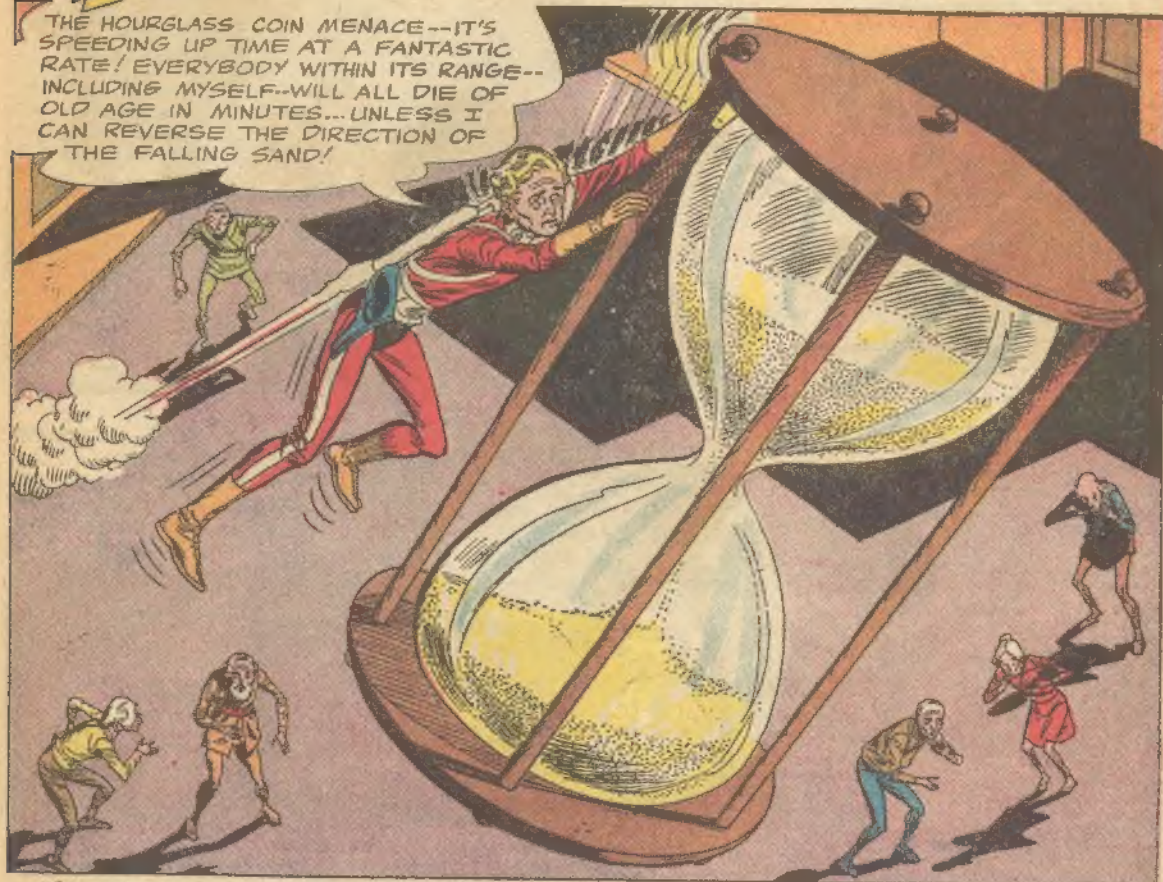
IMPLEMENTING THESE RIGHTS, THE U.N., THROUGH AGENCIES LIKE THE CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF), WORLD HEALTH AGENCY, FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION, AND UNESCO, HAS BEEN ASSISTING COUNTRIES THAT HAVE APPLIED FOR HELP...



ONLY THEN WILL THE CHILD BE ABLE TO BE "BROUGHT UP IN A SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING, TOLERANCE, FRIENDSHIP, AMONG PEOPLES, PEACE AND UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD."

ADAM STRANGE

THE HOURGLASS COIN MENACE--IT'S SPEEDING UP TIME AT A FANTASTIC RATE! EVERYBODY WITHIN ITS RANGE--INCLUDING MYSELF--WILL ALL DIE OF OLD AGE IN MINUTES...UNLESS I CAN REVERSE THE DIRECTION OF THE FALLING SAND!



USUALLY, EARTHMAN ADAM STRANGE FINDS MORE THAN ENOUGH DANGER WHEN HE JOURNEYS TO DISTANT RANN, HIS SECOND PLANETARY HOME! BUT THIS TIME HE UNWITTINGLY BRINGS ALONG HIS OWN POCKETFUL OF TROUBLE--IN THE FORM OF MYSTERIOUS, ODD COINS! FOR, WHEN THE IMAGES ON THEIR FACES SUDDENLY BEGIN COMING TO "LIFE," ADAM REALIZES THAT HE MUST FIND A WAY TO DESTROY...

THE COINS THAT DOOMED TWO PLANETS

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DEEP IN A LIMA, PERU CAVE... EARTH ARCHAEOLOGIST ADAM STRANGE UNEARTHS AN ANCIENT BRONZE CHEST...

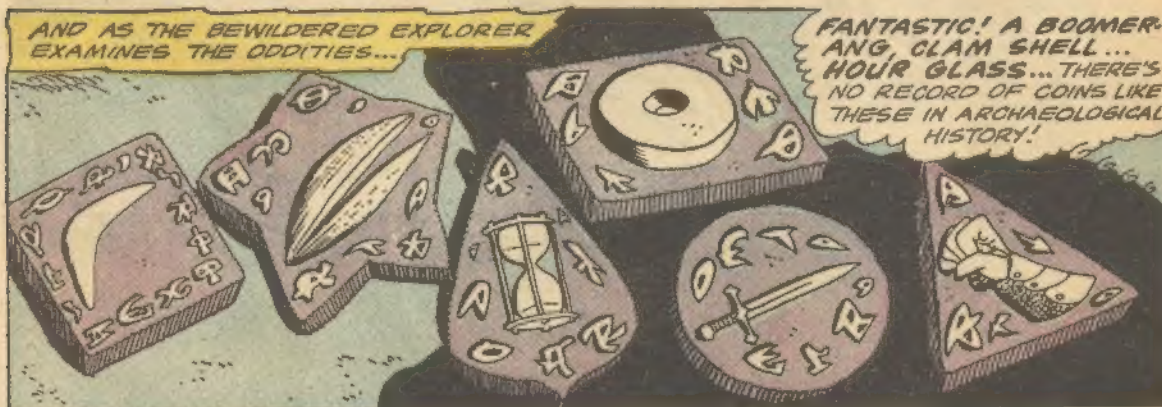
STRANGE SYMBOLS ENGRAVED ON IT-- I DON'T RECOGNIZE ANY OF THEM! BETTER TAKE IT OUTSIDE FOR A LOOK IN THE SUNLIGHT...



WHY IT CONTAINS SIX ODD COINS, OF DIFFERENT SIZES AND SHAPES!



AND AS THE BEWILDERED EXPLORER EXAMINES THE ODDITIES...

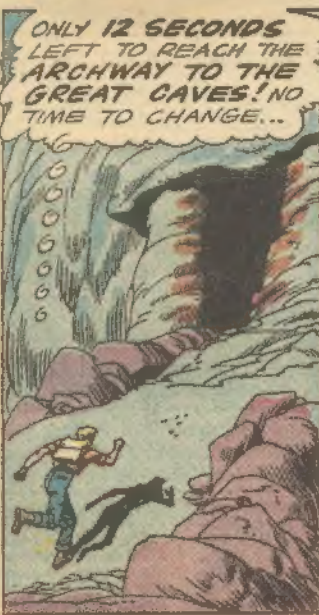


FANTASTIC! A BOOMERANG, CLAM SHELL... HOUR GLASS... THERE'S NO RECORD OF COINS LIKE THESE IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL HISTORY!

MIGHTY STRANGE! WHAT CAN IT ALL MEAN...? OOPS! I NEARLY FORGOT-- THE ZETA-BEAM IS DUE!... I'LL TAKE THESE ALONG FOR ALANNA!



ONLY 12 SECONDS LEFT TO REACH THE ARCHWAY TO THE GREAT CAVES! NO TIME TO CHANGE...



SCANT SECONDS LATER, A SHAFT OF LIGHT STRIKES AT THE PERUVIAN ARCH...



AND THE ZETA-BEAM CATA-
PULTS ADAM STRANGE
ALMOST INSTANTANEOUSLY
26 TRILLION MILES
THROUGH SPACE...



TO THE
PLANET
RANN
OF THE
STAR SUN
ALPHA
CENTAURI--
WHERE HIS
SWEET-
HEART
ALANNA
WAITS...

GREETINGS, ADAM--
YOU'RE RIGHT
ON TIME, AS
USUAL!

AND I'VE BROUGHT
YOU A REALLY OUT-
OF-THIS-WORLD
PRESENT,
ALANNA...



AREN'T THEY WEIRD, ADAM!
WHAT DO THEY REPRESENT?
WHO USED THEM?

THERE WAS
NO TIME TO
RESEARCH
THEM, ALANNA!
YOUR GUESS
IS AS GOOD
AS MINE!



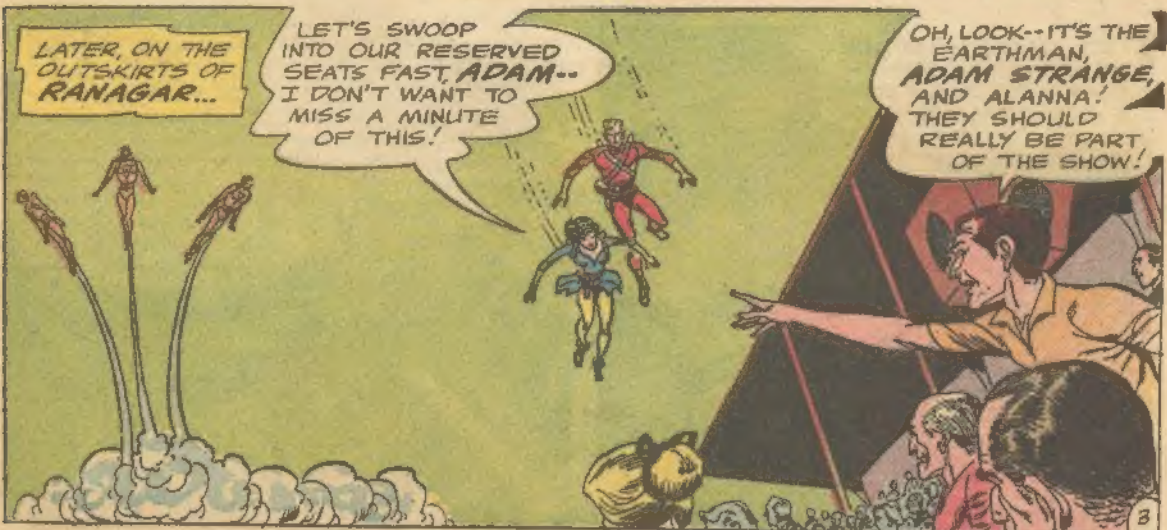
GOODNESS--WE'LL BE LATE FOR THE ANNUAL
ROCKET SHOW! AND YOU'RE TO BE MY ESCORT--
I'LL DRIVE YOU HOME SO YOU CAN CHANGE INTO
YOUR UNIFORM!



LATER, ON THE
OUTSKIRTS OF
RANAGAR...

LET'S SWOOP
INTO OUR RESERVED
SEATS FAST, ADAM--
I DON'T WANT TO
MISS A MINUTE
OF THIS!

OH, LOOK--IT'S THE
EARTHMAN,
ADAM STRANGE,
AND ALANNA!
THEY SHOULD
REALLY BE PART
OF THE SHOW!





BUT THE PAIR HAVE SCARCELY SETTLED DOWN TO WATCH THE COLORFUL AERIAL SHOW, WHEN...

WE INTERRUPT THE ROCKET MEET TO BRING YOU A **SPECIAL BULLETIN...** A STRANGE FLYING OBJECT HAS BEEN SIGHTED APPROACHING RANAGAR FROM THE SOUTH...

LET'S CUT OUT ALANNA, AND DO SOME FAST ROCKETING OURSELVES TO FIND OUT!



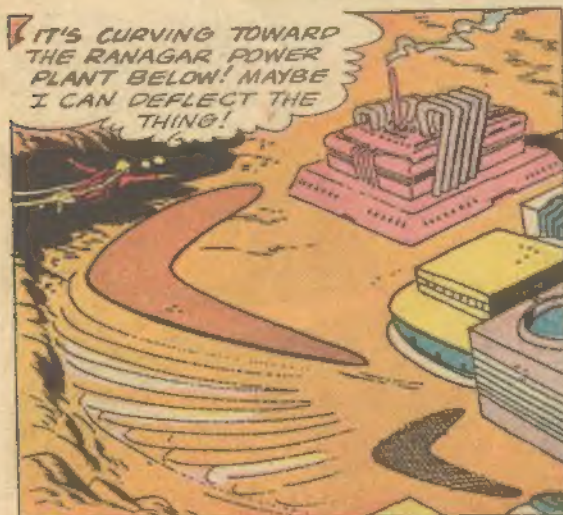
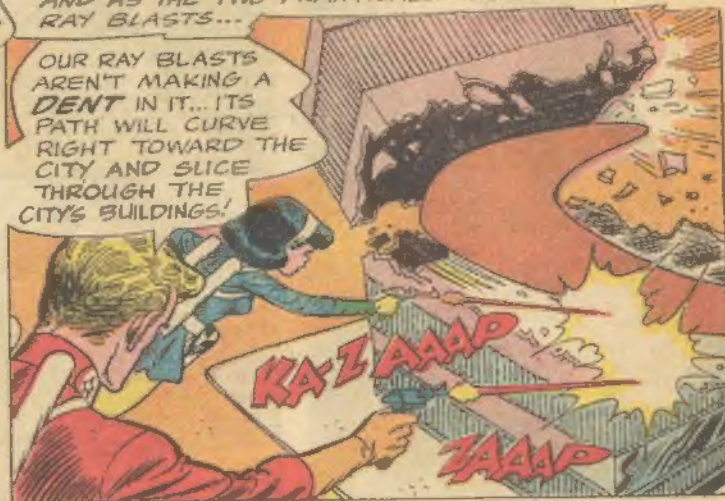
SHORTLY...

THERE IT IS -- HACKING DOWN A WATER TOWER!

IT LOOKS LIKE A GIGANTIC **BOOMER-ANG**, ALANNA! LET'S SEE IF WE CAN PUT IT OUT OF ACTION WITH A RAY BLAST BARRAGE!

AND AS THE TWO FRANTICALLY TRIGGER THEIR RAY BLASTS...

OUR RAY BLASTS AREN'T MAKING A DENT IN IT... ITS PATH WILL CURVE RIGHT TOWARD THE CITY AND SLICE THROUGH THE CITY'S BUILDINGS!



IT'S CURVING TOWARD THE RANAGAR POWER PLANT BELOW! MAYBE I CAN DEFLECT THE THING!

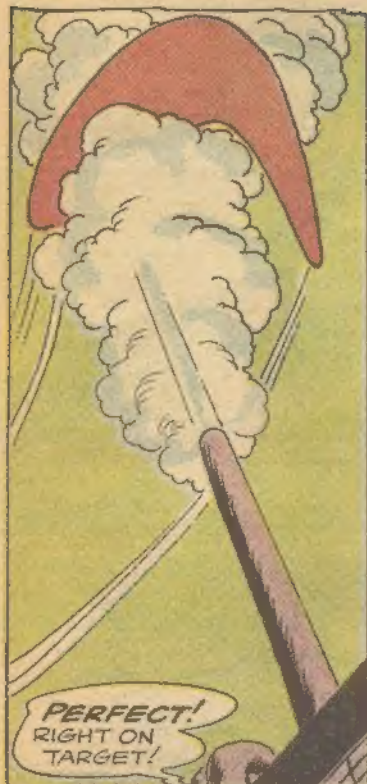
THEN, AS THE ROCKETING EARTH ARCHAEOLOGIST GIVES A PLANT WORKER HURRIED INSTRUCTIONS...

HIT ITS FLAT UNDERSIDE AT JUST THE **RIGHT** ANGLE, WE'LL KNOCK IT OUT OF ITS PRESENT ORBITING ARC!

GIVE ME THE SIGNAL, ADAM, AND I'LL **RELEASE** OUR STEAM POWER FULL BLAST!



AND INSTANTS LATER...



PERFECT!
RIGHT ON
TARGET!

THAT TAKES CARE OF
THE IMMEDIATE DANGER
TO THE CITY, BUT WHEN
THAT GIANT BOOMERANG
REACHES THE PEAK OF
ITS ARC, IT'LL START
ANOTHER THREATENING
ORBIT! LET'S GET TO
THE AUTHORITIES,
ALANNA!



BUT LATER, AS THE PAIR
CONFER WITH RANAGAR'S
CHIEF OF POLICE...

CHIEF--ANOTHER
STRANGE THING IS
REPORTED SOUTH OF
THE CITY RAMPAGING
INTO THE OUTSKIRTS ON
THE GROUND!

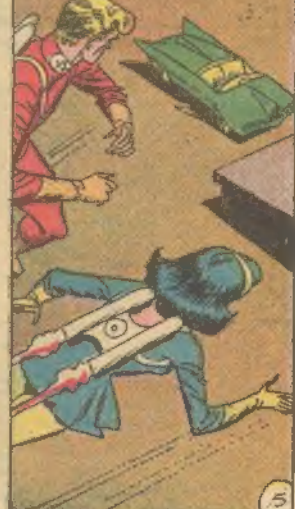
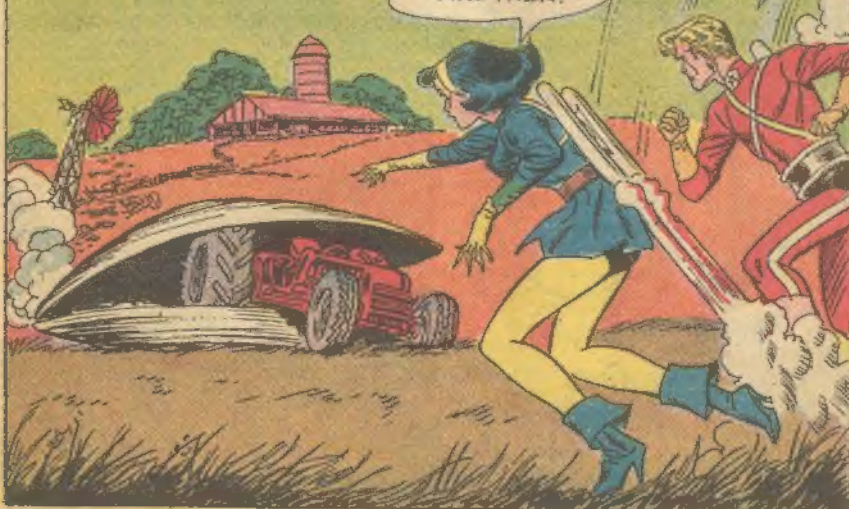


QUICKLY, ADAM AND
ALANNA ROCKET
TO THE SCENE,
WHERE...

ADAM! THAT
MONSTROUS CLAM--
IT'S JUST LIKE
THE CLAM ON ONE
OF YOUR WEIRD
COINS! AND
THERE WAS A
BOOMERANG
IMPRINT ON
ANOTHER!

THAT CLAM
IS DEVOURING
OBJECTS IN
ITS MAMMOTH
TRAP! GREAT
GOSH--WHAT
CAN IT ALL
MEAN?

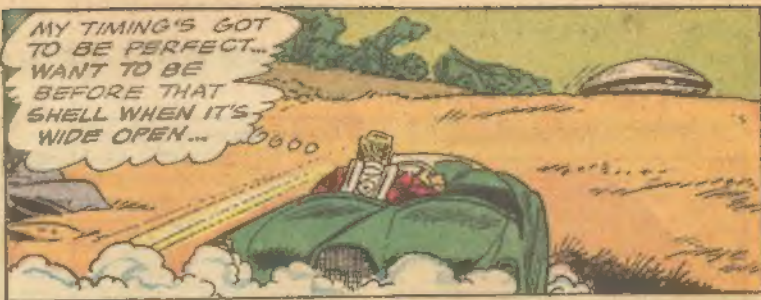
HOW IN THUNDER
CAN WE GET RID
OF THAT THING?
WAIT A MINUTE--
THAT ROCKET
CAR PARKED OVER
THERE...



THAT MONSTER SHELL IS ON AN EATING SPREE, ALANNA! I'M GOING TO TRY AND FEED IT SOMETHING IT WILL REALLY GET A KICK OUT OF...



MY TIMING'S GOT TO BE PERFECT... WANT TO BE BEFORE THAT SHELL WHEN IT'S WIDE OPEN...



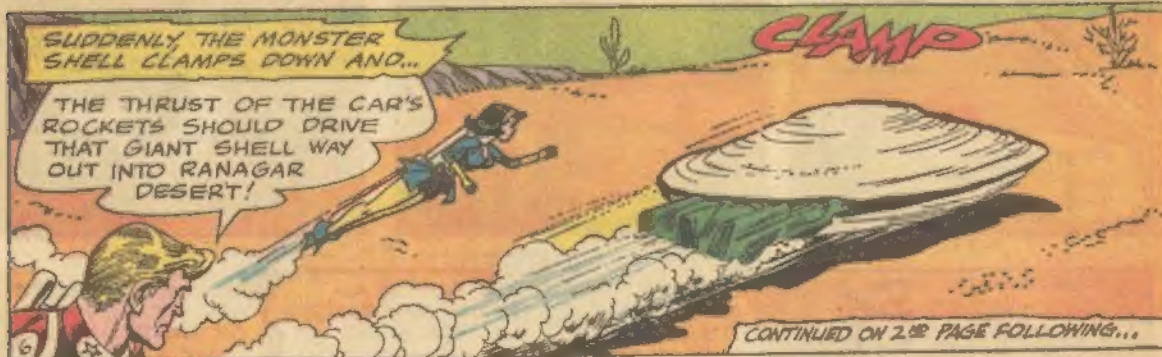
THEN, AN INSTANT BEFORE THE CAR REACHES THE MENACE...

THIS IS WHERE I GET OFF...



SUDDENLY, THE MONSTER SHELL CLAMPS DOWN AND...

THE THRUST OF THE CAR'S ROCKETS SHOULD DRIVE THAT GIANT SHELL WAY OUT INTO RANAGAR DESERT!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING...



For The
**VERY
BEST**

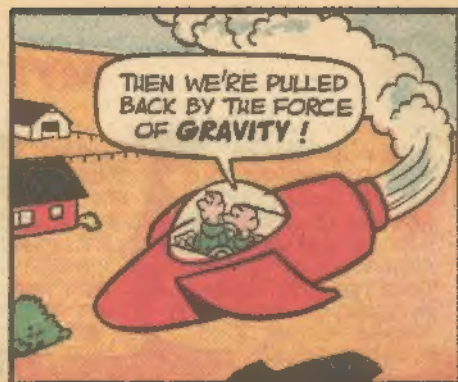


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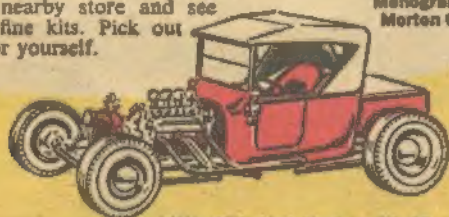
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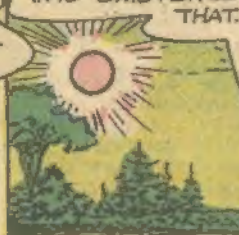


A MOMENT LATER, ADAM'S EYES BLINK IN DISBELIEF AS...

LOOK AT THIS, ALANNA! TWO OF THE IMPRINTS THAT WERE ON THE COINS HAVE VANISHED-- THE BOOMERANG AND THE CLAM SHELL!



THE TWO MENACES PLAGUING RANN! BUT ADAM, HOW COULD THEY POSSIBLY COME INTO EXISTENCE LIKE THAT...?

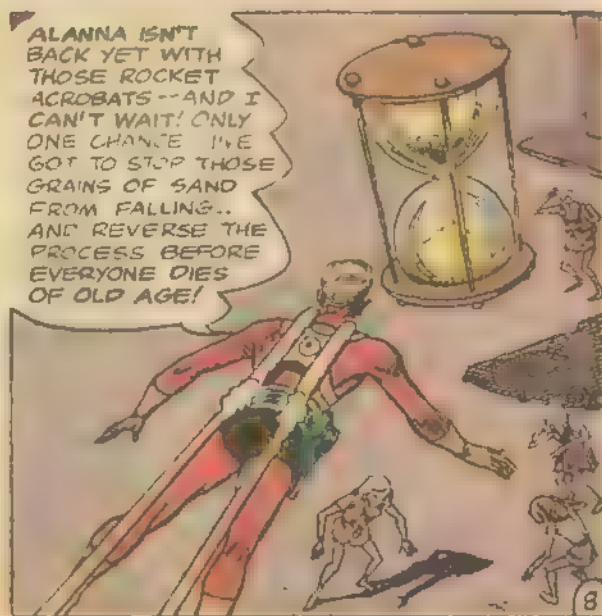
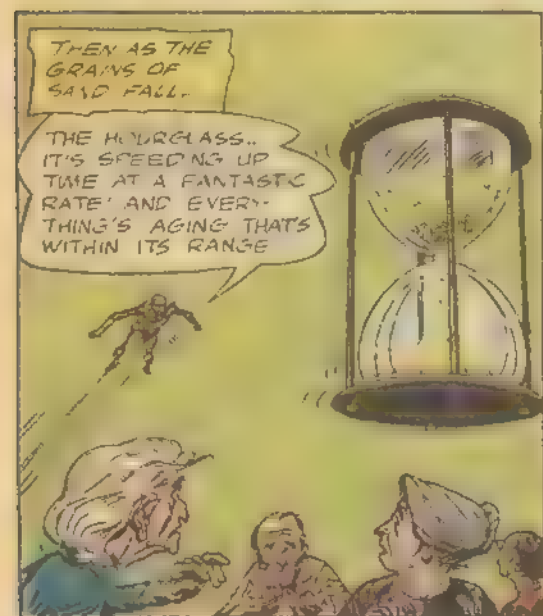
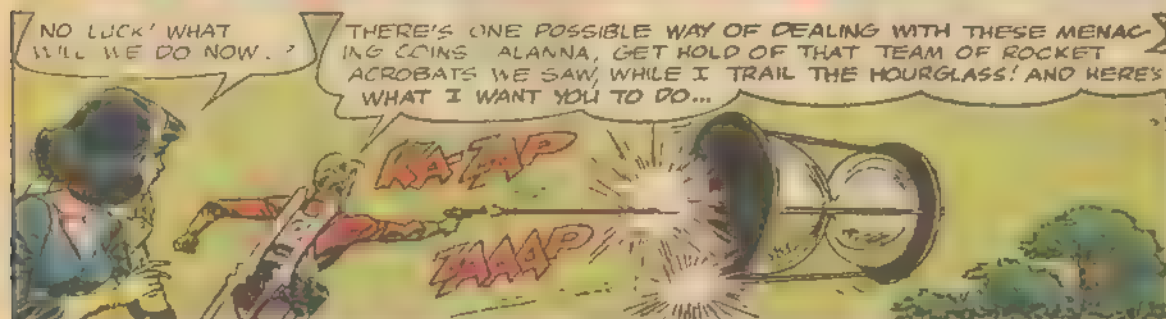
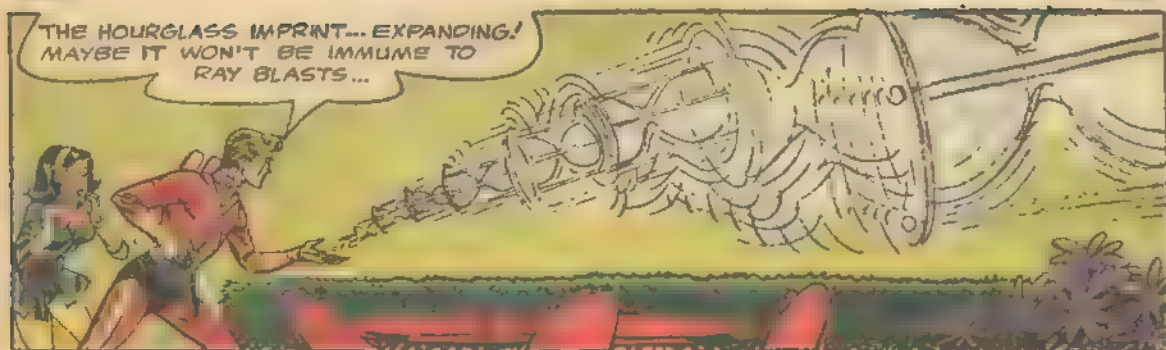


HMM-M... I FOUND THE COINS IN THE DARKNESS OF AN EARTH CAVE-- AND THEY'VE BEEN LYING OUT HERE FOR SOME TIME IN THE SUNLIGHT!... OF COURSE-- THE SUNLIGHT MUST HAVE ACTIVATED THEM!



GREAT PLANETS! I LEFT THE OTHER COINS ON EARTH EXPOSED TO THE SUN! THEY'LL ACTIVATE AND DESTROY THE CIVILIZATION THERE AND... THERE'S NO WAY I CAN WARN THEM!





BUT THEN, AS ADAM APPROACHES THE FANTASTIC OBJECT...

CLOSER. CLOSER SOARS THE EARTHMAN-- AGING RAPIDLY AS HE REACHES HIS TARGET...

TURNING HIS ROCKETS ON TO FULL POWER, ADAM SHOOTS FORWARD...

ITS STRANGE POWER IS BEGINNING TO AFFECT ME! GOT TO KEEP GOING...

M-MY VISION... IT'S STARTING TO BLUR! AND I FEEL WEAK... IT'S NOW OR NEVER!

I'VE GOT.. TO FLIP... THIS THING AROUND...



THEN...

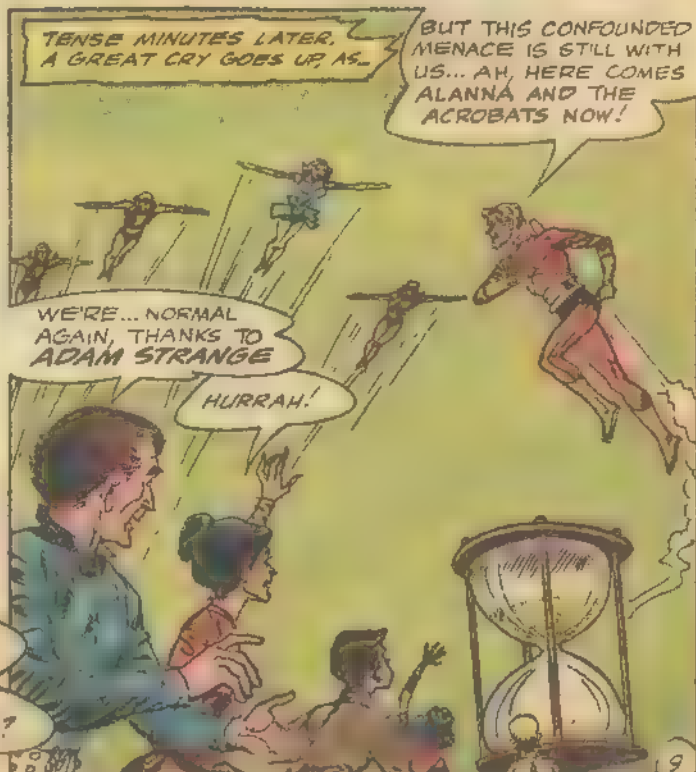
TENSE MINUTES LATER, A GREAT CRY GOES UP, AS...

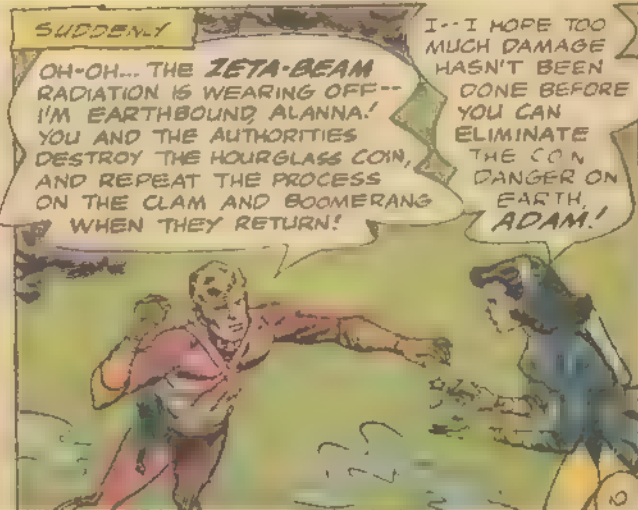
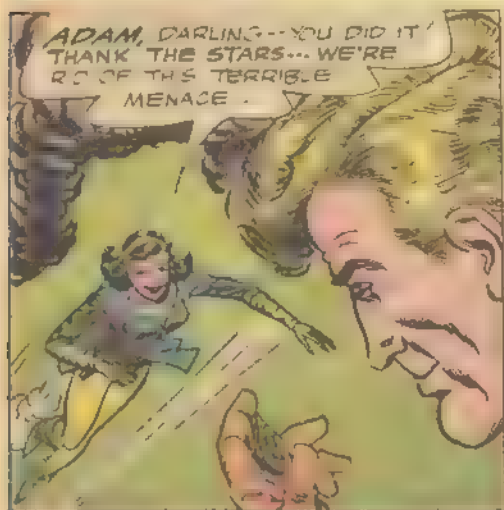
BUT THIS CONFOUNDED MENACE IS STILL WITH US... AH, HERE COMES ALANNA AND THE ACROBATS NOW!

WE'RE... NORMAL AGAIN, THANKS TO ADAM STRANGE

HURRAH!

DID IT! BUT... WILL THE THING REVERSE THE AGING PROCESS AS THE TIME SANDS FLOW BACK TO THE OTHER COMPARTMENT?





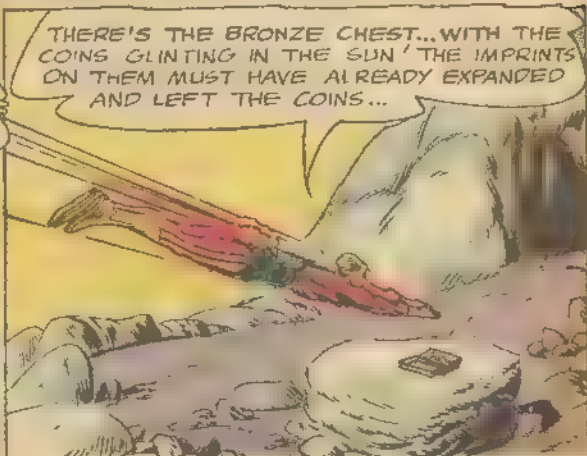
ONCE AGAIN THE AMAZING REACTION SENDS ADAM STRANGE BACK TO HIS HOME PLANET WHERE...

I'M MATERIALIZING IN A VILLAGE SOME 20 MILES SOUTH OF THE SPOT WHERE I UNEARTHED THOSE COINS! GOT TO MOVE FAST.



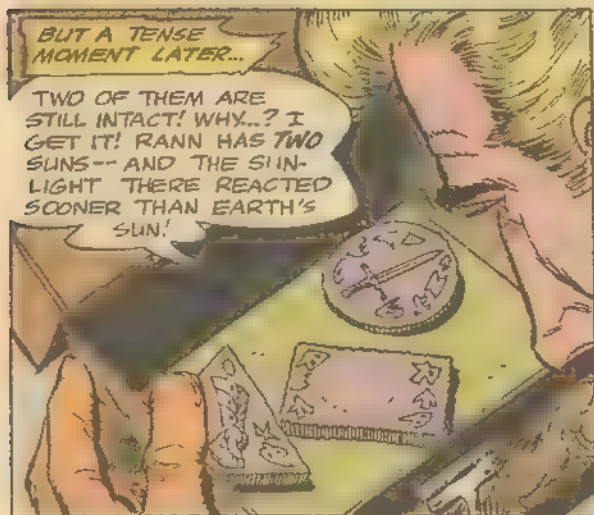
USING HIS POWERFUL ROCKETS, ADAM SCARS TO THE CAVE AREA, WHERE...

THERE'S THE BRONZE CHEST...WITH THE COINS GLINTING IN THE SUN! THE IMPRINTS ON THEM MUST HAVE ALREADY EXPANDED AND LEFT THE COINS...



BUT A TENSE MOMENT LATER...

TWO OF THEM ARE STILL INTACT! WHY...? I GET IT! RANN HAS TWO SUNS-- AND THE SUN-LIGHT THERE REACTED SOONER THAN EARTH'S SUN!



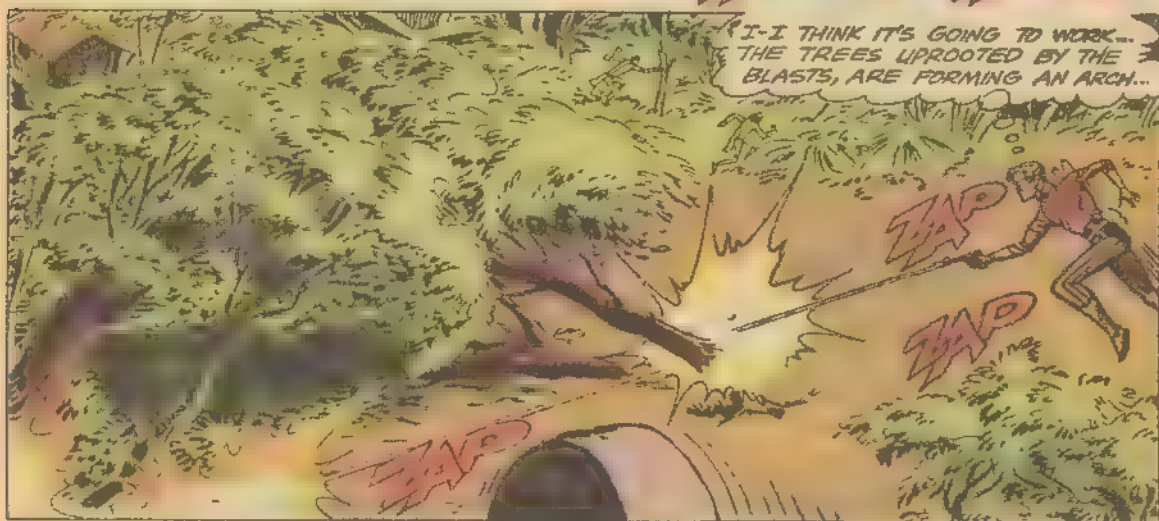
BUT THE STONE WHEEL ON THE THIRD COIN MUST HAVE ALREADY MATERIALIZED, AND IS ON A RAMPAGE SOMEWHERE! THE CLOSED CHEST LID WILL BLOT THE SUN FROM THESE OTHER COINS WHILE I HUNT DOWN THE MENACE!



AS THE DESPERATE ADAM ROCKETS OFF, THE DENSE PERUVIAN JUNGLE...

THERE'S THE IMPRINT OF THE MONSTROUS THING. IT WHEELED BELOW HEADING SOUTH...





THEN, IN THE
SHADOW OF
THE ARCH...

THAT'S IT.. BACK
WHERE YOU BELONG...

ONCE IT RETURNS TO THE FACE OF
THE COIN, I'LL POCKET IT TO
SHIELD IT FROM THE
SUN.

A MOMENT LATER, AN UNEXPECTED OVATION
GREET'S ADAM AS HE SOARS FROM OUT OF
THE ARCH...

LOOK! BIRD MAN
MAKE EVIL
WHEEL
DISAPPEAR!

OUR TRIBE WILL
NEVER FORGET
THE FLYING
SPIRIT AND HOW
HE SAVED OUR
VILLAGE!

LOOKS AS THOUGH THE ADAM
STRANGE OF RANN HAS BECOME
A NATIVE LEGEND ON EARTH!...
WELL, ONCE I DESTROY THESE
COINS I'LL RETURN TO CIVILIZATION
FOR A WELL-EARNED REST!

13

The End

START YOUR OWN
SECRET CLUB...

SHINY PUTTY

SECRET CODE

BRING YOUR BIKES
TO THE PARK
IN AN HOUR

IN AN HOUR
TO THE PARK
BRING YOUR BIKES

METAMORPHO

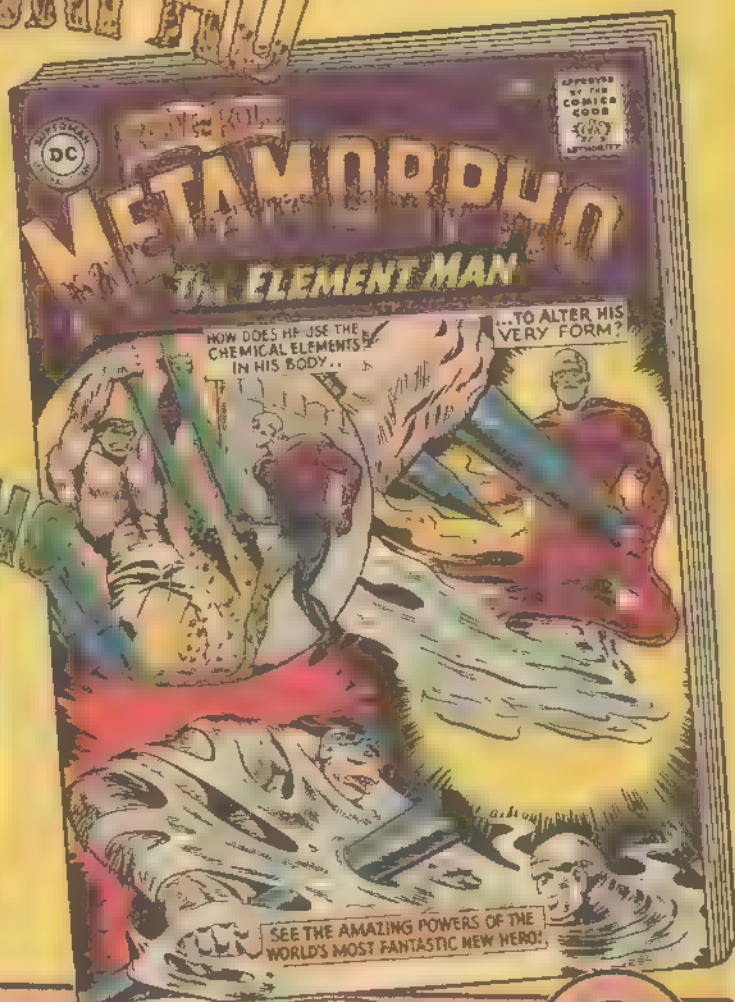
IS LIQUID - SOLID - GASEOUS -
ABLE TO WILL THE CHEMICALS OF HIS
BODY INTO ANY SHAPE OR FORM!

METAMORPHO

POSSESSES
ALL THE POWER
OF THE UNIVERSE -
FROM THE TINIEST
ELECTRON TO THE
MIGHTIEST SUN!

METAMORPHO

OPENS A NEW
ERA IN COMICS
THRILLS -- THE
BRAVEST, THE
BOLDEST, THE
MOST BIZARRE
HERO OF ALL TIME!



See him come
to life...in the
latest issue of...

The
BRAVE and the **BOLD**



ON SALE OCT. 29th

SPOTLIGHT



on SCIENCE

A balloon-borne telescope, floating above the earth's obscuring atmosphere, has definitely established that there are large amounts of water vapor in the atmosphere surrounding the huge stars known as red giants. A red giant represents the final phase in the evolution of a star before it dwindles away into an ever-dimming dwarf. The red giant is relatively cool but enormously large, some of them being comparable in size to the orbit of Mars, whose distance from the sun averages 141 million miles.

Astronomers have long wondered about the structure of the red giants, but they have never been able to determine what causes them to die and ultimately be transformed into white dwarfs. The discovery of the water vapor, they believe, may help them find answers to the mystery of how stars become old and die.

* * *

It will come as no surprise to the majority of people that the single substance most used on earth is—water! But can you guess the *second* most used material? Believe it or not, the answer is—concrete!

Last year, the total world consumption of concrete was three billion tons, or one ton for every living human being!

* * *

The famous "petrified forest" in the Painted Desert region of eastern Arizona is really not a forest at all. The hundreds of huge stone logs that lie scattered in all directions in this area are far from the site where they once grew, having been carried down-stream in an ancient "log drive" some 175 million years ago.

A true petrified forest can be found in the northeastern quadrant of Yellowstone National Park. This region, some 50 million years ago, consisted of a series of flat river valleys separated by gently rolling hills. An amazing series of events transformed these ancient forests into forests of stone. The first stage consisted of volcanic eruptions which showered the valleys with rocks, ashes, and other debris, until the forests were buried to an average depth of 10 to 15 feet.

After some 200 years a new forest began to rise on top of the blanket of volcanic debris.

At the same time mineral-bearing waters below the surface had begun the process of turning the buried tree trunks into stone. Thus, today, many millions of years later, the volcanic matrix surrounding the buried trunks has eroded away in places, leaving the petrified remains of the ancient trees standing upright exactly where the trees had been growing originally.

* * *

How does the eye detect colors? It was long believed that we see color by sensing the intensities of three prime colors—blue, green and red—and by mixing these colors, it was possible to produce any other shade. Recent research has confirmed that the eye is indeed sensitive to three such colors; but the same research has added also to our knowledge of how this works.

Early in the study of the eye it became obvious that, optically, it operates like a camera. But instead of the image being thrown on a film, it is thrown on a layer of sensing cells. In higher animals—such as man and monkey—there are two kinds of sensors on this layer or retina. The most numerous are the rods, which cover almost the entire retina. They see only in black and white, and there are about 100 million in the human eye.

The second kind of sensors consists of color-sensitive cones, which number about 10 million. The eye of lower animals does not contain any of these cones; thus, these animals are color-blind. Man and monkey do have them; thus, they can see more colors than paint manufacturers have yet been able to devise.

* * *

Orbiting space vehicles have verified the existence of a solar wind (of hydrogen) that speeds past the earth at about 900,000 miles per hour. Like a giant broom, it sweeps up the gases evaporated from planets and comets, particles of meteoric dust, and even cosmic rays—carrying its mixed cargo into interstellar space.

Scientists claim this solar wind, which originates in the sun, is responsible for the outer portions of the Van Allen radiation belts around the earth, for auroras in the earth's atmosphere, and for terrestrial magnetic storms.

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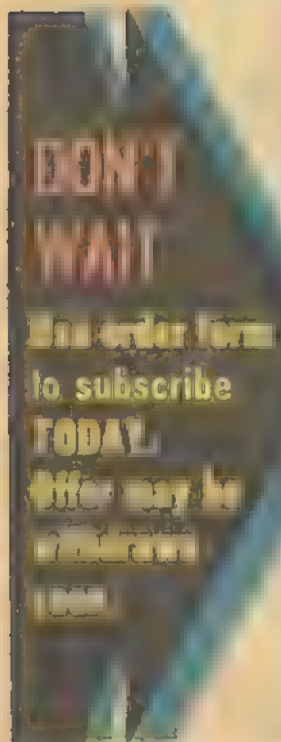
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MYSTERY IN SPACE



SPACE RANGER



IMAGINE IF YOU CAN, THE MOST FANTASTIC ANIMALS IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM--INVALUABLE CREATURES THAT BEAR TUSKS OF DIAMONDS, SPIN WEBS OF GOLD... AND SHOOT PEARL PELLETS! THESE ARE THE WONDROUS SPECIES SPACE RANGER AND CRYLL MUST PROTECT FROM A BAND OF ALIEN POACHERS AS THEY SEEK TO SOLVE..

**The MYSTERY of the
MILLION-DOLLAR BEASTS**

AT ALLIED SOLAR ENTERPRISES RICK STARR'S PRETTY SECRETARY MORA, SLIPS INTO THE RADIO ROOM AND SENDS AN URGENT MESSAGE TO HER BOSS.

TOOG-REL, PRESIDENT OF THE INTERPLANETARY ANIMAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY, HAS SENT A FRANTIC SOS OUT FOR SPACE RANGER'S SERVICES, RICK! SOUNDS LIKE REAL TROUBLE...

HMM... I'D BETTER CANCEL OUT THIS BUSINESS TRIP AND GET OVER TO TOOG-REL'S MARTIAN HEADQUARTERS!

SOON INSIDE THE CLEVERLY CONCEALED ASTEROID HEADQUARTERS BETWEEN MARS AND JUPITER, RICK MAKES A HURRIED CHANGE INTO THE FAMED SPACE RANGER UNIFORM...

ANIMAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY? WHY N' HOWLIN' COMETS WOULD THEY NEED YOUR HELP SPACE RANGER?

THE SOCIETY WAS FORMED SOME YEARS AGO TO PROTECT ANIMAL LIFE THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION, CRYLL! GREEDY POACHERS, ALL BUT DESTROYED VERY RARE SPECIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH VALUABLE PROPERTIES!

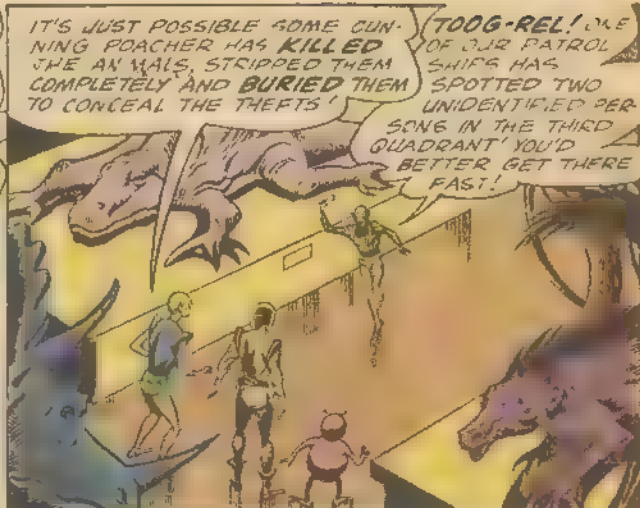
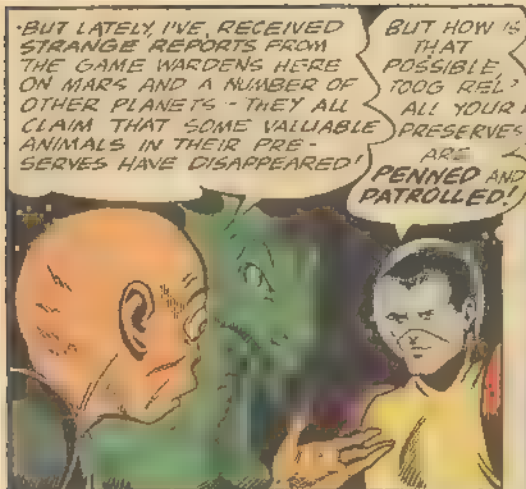
MOMENTS LATER AS POWERFUL JET ENGINES OF THE SOLAR KING THRUST SPACE RANGER AND HIS ODD LITTLE ASSISTANT THROUGH THE BLACK VOID OF THE UNIVERSE...

GREAT PRE-SERVES WERE ESTABLISHED IN EACH OF THE PLANETS TO PREVENT THIS, BUT SOMETHING MUST HAVE GONE

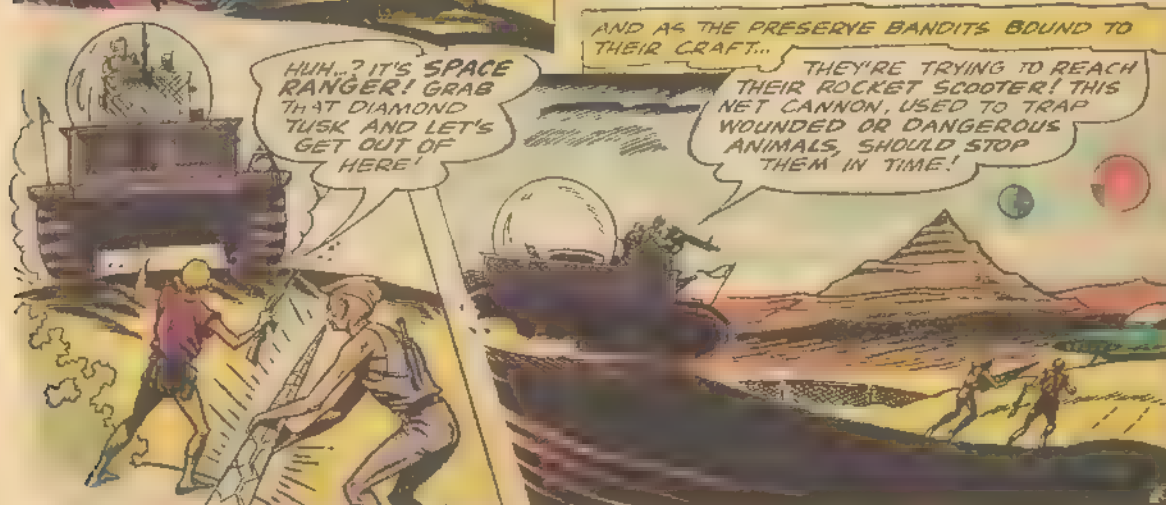
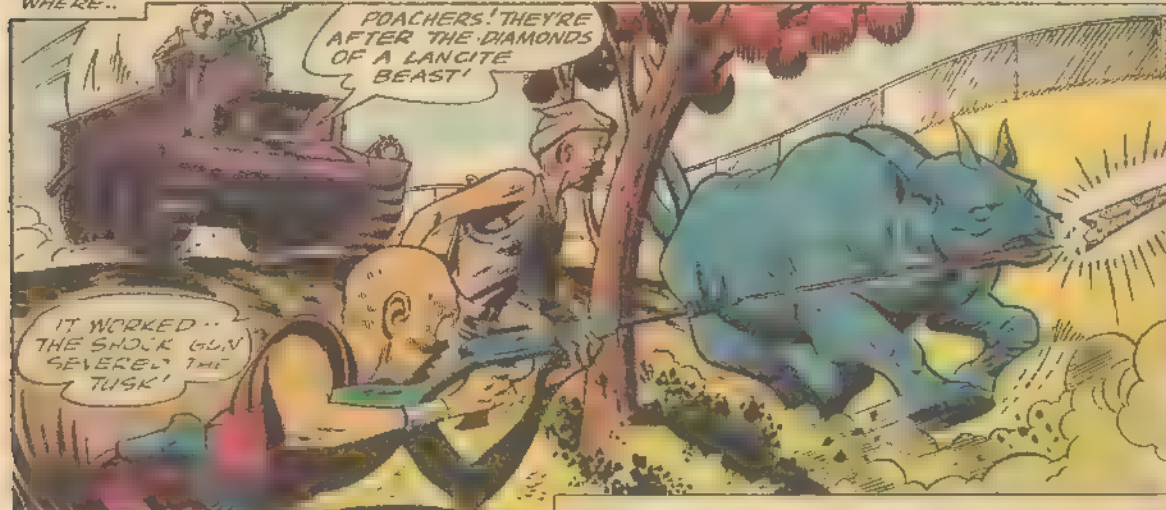
LATER, AS THE SOCIETY'S PRESIDENT VOICES HIS FEARS TO THE GUARDIAN OF SPACE...

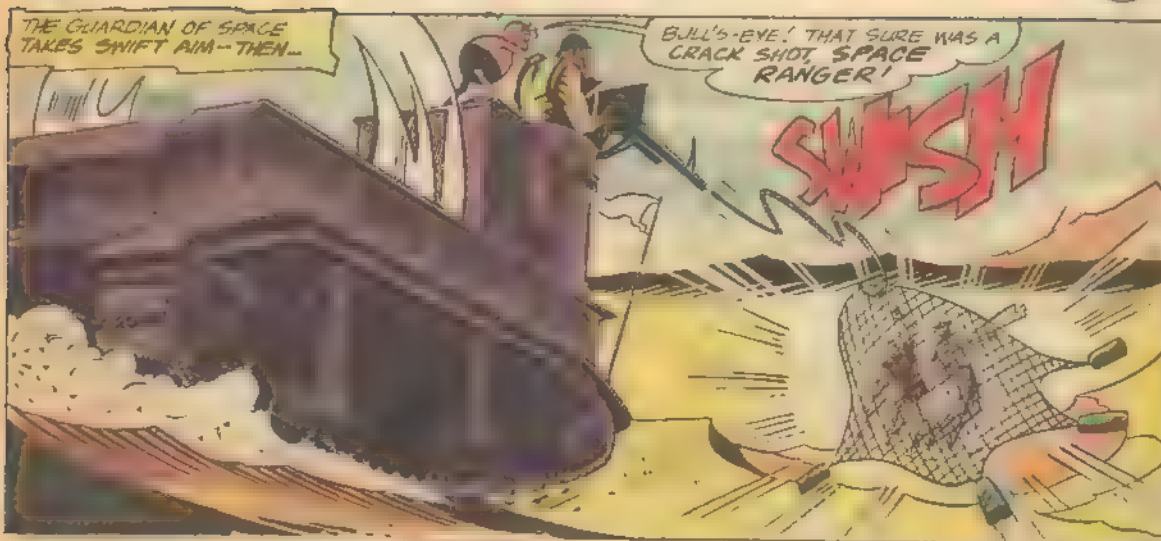
AS YOU KNOW, SPACE RANGER, FROM TIME TO TIME, POACHERS INFILTRATE OUR PRE-SERVES FOR A QUICK THEFT OF VALUABLE PARTS OF OUR RARE "TREASURE" BEASTS! THEY DON'T DARE DESTROY THEM--THE PENALTY IS TOO SEVERE!





SHORTLY, IN A SPECIAL SAFARI-TANK, THE THREE REACH THE THIRD QUADRANT OF THE PRESERVE, WHERE...





THE GUARDIAN OF SPACE
TAKES SWIFT AIM--THEN--

BULL'S-EYE! THAT SURE WAS A
CRACK SHOT SPACE
RANGER!

SWASH

MOMENTS LATER...

THOSE TWO CAN'T BE OUR
WANTED INTERPLANETARY
POACHERS! THEY'RE
FETTY LOCAL
THIEVES ON
MARS! OUT
FOR A QUICK
HAUL OF A
DIAMOND
TUSK!

WE'VE
STILL GOT A
MYSTERY TO
SOLVE! LET'S
JAIL THESE TWO
AND GET BACK TO
YOUR HEADQUARTERS,
TOOG-REL! WE
GOT AN IDEA!

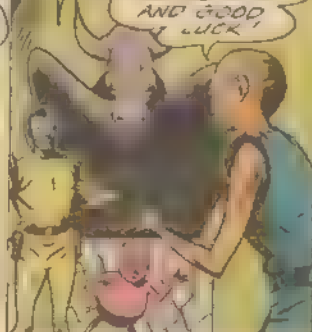
SHORTLY

SINCE YOU HAVEN'T HAD ANY
REPORTS OF DISAPPEARING
ANIMALS ON JUPITER OR
PLUTO, THOSE WOULD
BE LOGICAL PRESERVES
THE POACHER GANG
WOULD STRIKE
NEXT!

OF
COURSE!
IT'S
JUST
POSSIBLE
THEY
HAVEN'T
BEEN THERE
YET...

I THINK CRYLL AND I
BETTER LOOK OVER
THOSE PRESERVES,
JUST IN CASE, TOOG-
REL! WE'LL KEEP IN
CONTACT.

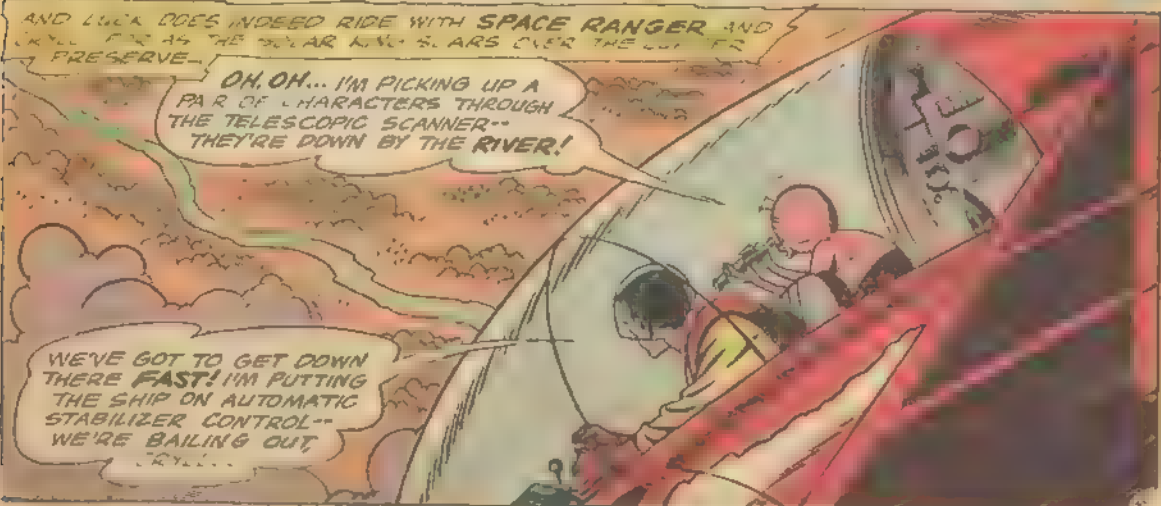
PLEASE DO--
AND GOOD
LUCK!

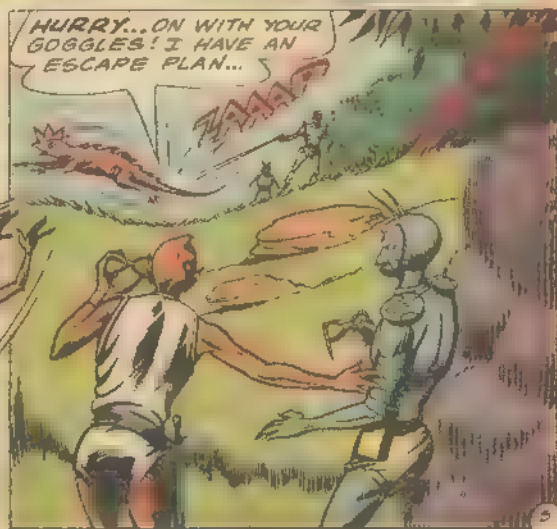
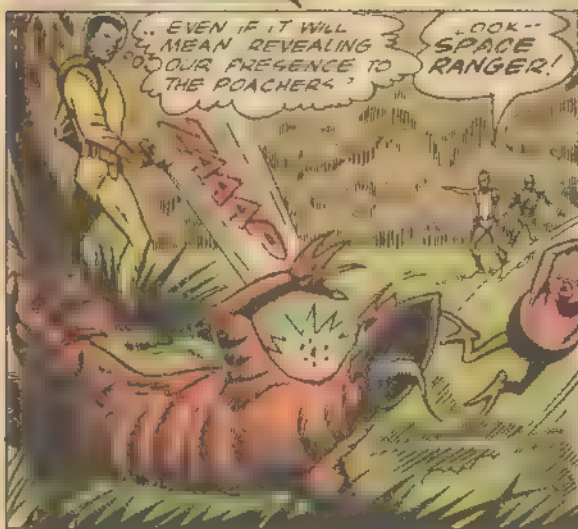
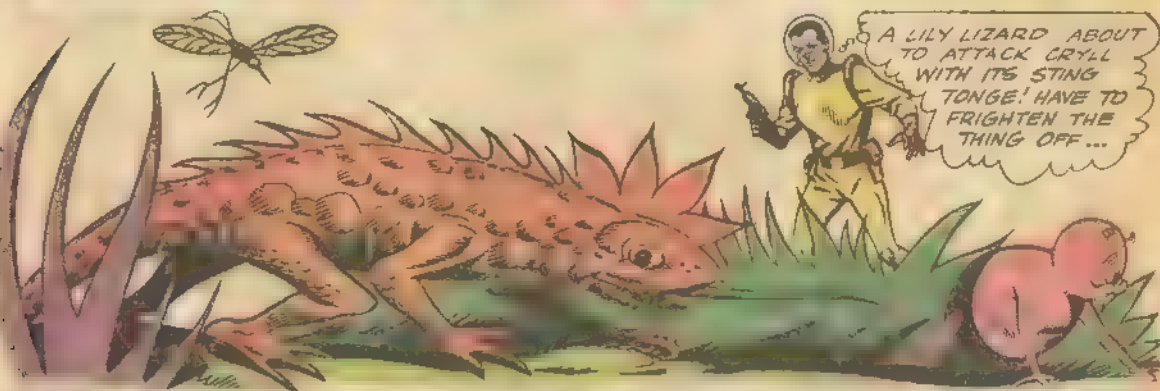
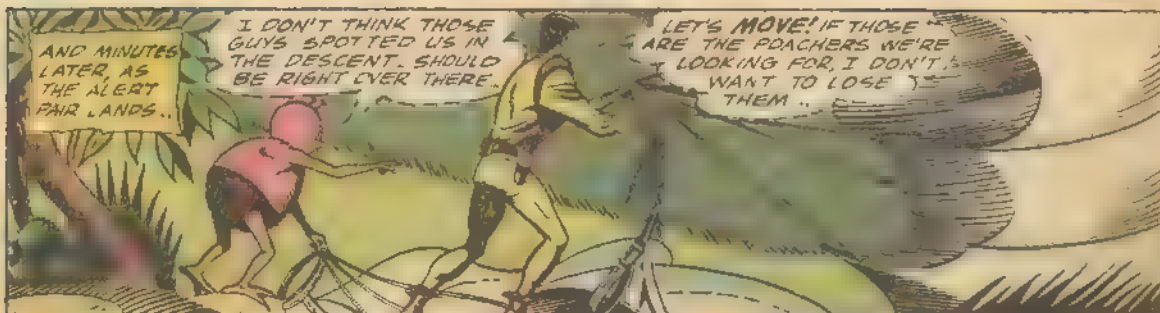


AND LUCK DOES INDEED RIDE WITH SPACE RANGER AND
CRYLL, FOR AS THE SOLAR KIN SLARS OVER THE GUARDIAN
PRESERVE--

OH, OH... I'M PICKING UP A
PAIR OF CHARACTERS THROUGH
THE TELESCOPIC SCANNER--
THEY'RE DOWN BY THE RIVER!

WE'VE GOT TO GET DOWN
THERE FAST! I'M PUTTING
THE SHIP ON AUTOMATIC
STABILIZER CONTROL--
WE'RE BAILING OUT,
CRYLL!







MYSTERY IN SPACE



THE POACHER'S HAND DARTS BEHIND THE MAZE OF VINES-- HIS FINGER STRIKES A BUTTON, AND...

HUH-- A CAMOUFLAGED SPACE SHIP-- AND A TRAPPED RAINBOW DAZZLER BIRD INSIDE! THEY'RE AFTER ITS RARE FEATHERS!

WHY SHOULD WE TANGLE WITH SPACE RANGER WHEN OUR TRAPPED FRIEND INSIDE CAN DEAL WITH HIM? FROD HIM!



BEFORE SPACE RANGER CAN ACT...

M-MY EYES! THOSE CHARACTERS! EXCELLENT! HAVE EXPOSED US TO THE AND WHEN BLINDING BRILLIANCE OF YOU RECOVER THE STARTLED DAZZLER YOUR SIGHT BIRD! WE WON'T BE WE SHALL BE ABLE TO SEE FOR SAFELY AWAY MINUTES... FROM HERE...



AND WHEN THEIR VISION RETURNS...

THEY'RE GONE-- SHIP AND ALL! BUT I DIDN'T EVEN HEAR THEM TAKE OFF!

WAIT, CRYLL! WHAT'S THAT OVER THERE? THERE SEEMS TO BE PARTIALLY CAMOUFLAGED!



AND AS THE PAIR INVESTIGATES...

IT IS CAMOUFLAGE... CONCEALING A G-ANT CHUTE AND LEADS RIGHT DOWN TO THAT NEARBY RIVER, SPACE RANGER!

A CLEVER OPERATION, CRYLL! THAT EXPLAINS HOW THEY ENTER AND LEAVE A PRESERVE SILENTLY! ONCE THEY CAPTURE AN ANIMAL IN THEIR SPACE SHIP THEY SLIDE THE SHIP DOWN THE CHUTE



WHERE IT SUBMERGES IN THE RIVER... GOES DOWN-- STREAM OUT OF THE PRESERVE AREA AND TAKES OFF WITHOUT BEING OBSERVED!

WHEN THEY BLAST OFF FOR THEIR HIDEOUT! AND NOT A CHANCE OF GETTING TO THE SOLAR KING IN TIME TO TRACK THEM...





MYSTERY IN SPACE



TRUE... BUT WE MAY PICK UP THEIR TRAIL ON PLUTO--IT'S THE ONE PLANET THIS POACHER GANG HASN'T RAIDED YET! LET'S MOVE, CRYLL...

THE **SOLAR KING** STREAKS TO PLUTO, WHERE **SPACE RANGER** AND CRYLL BORROW A SAFARI-TANK AND SCOUR THE RIVER AREA...

WHY, THEY'RE PLUTONIAN MELONS... THE FAVORITE FOOD OF THE GOLDEN SPIDER... OF COURSE! THEY WERE PLANTED HERE TO BAIT THE ANIMAL DOWN THAT SIDE TRAIL!

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR A CAMOUFLAGED CHUTE OR SPACESHIP, CRYLL--THEY'RE A CINCH TO BE CONCEALED SOMEWHERE ALONG THIS RIVER!

WHAT'S THAT ON THE TRAIL THERE?

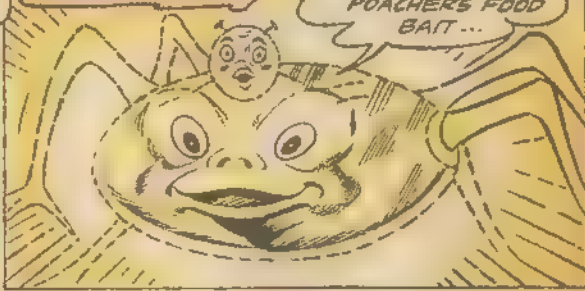
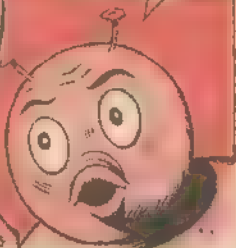


THERE'S NO SENSE IN CAPTURING THE POACHERS NOW--WE'LL HAVE TO TRY TO TRAIL THEM TO THEIR SECRET HIDEOUT!

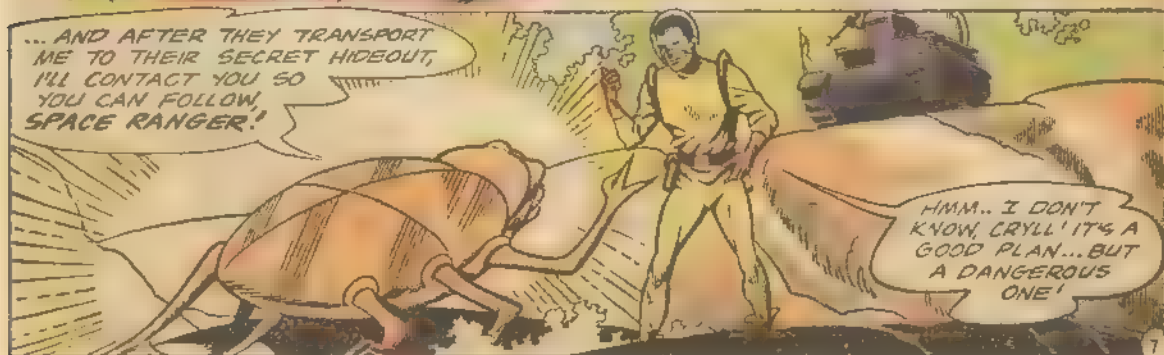
BUT WE MIGHT BE SPOTTED AND THE WHOLE PLAN WILL BE RUINED! I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA, **SPACE RANGER**...

ABRUPTLY, CRYLL BRINGS ONE OF HIS STRANGE POWERS INTO PLAY...

I'LL JUST CHANGE INTO A GOLDEN SPIDER... PRETEND TO TAKE THE POACHER'S FOOD BAIT...



...AND AFTER THEY TRANSPORT ME TO THEIR SECRET HIDEOUT, I'LL CONTACT YOU SO YOU CAN FOLLOW, **SPACE RANGER**!



HMM... I DON'T KNOW, CRYLL! IT'S A GOOD PLAN... BUT A DANGEROUS ONE!



MYSTERY IN SPACE



NONSENSE--I'LL BE OKAY!
NOW TAKE COVER **SPACE**
RANGER... AND I'LL
GO TO WORK!

OKAY, PAL --
BUT BE CAREFUL!

SHORTLY THE MELON
TRAIL LEADS THE
DISGUISED CRYLL
INTO A CLEARING
WHERE...

THERE'S THE CAMOU-
FLAGED SPACESHIP..
AND ALL I'VE GOT TO
DO IS FOLLOW THIS
MELON RIGHT INSIDE
TO BE TRAPPED!

A MOMENT LATER...

THERE GOES THE CARGO
HATCH... SLIDING SHUT! BUT
THIS IS ONE TRAPPED
ANIMAL THEY MIGHT LIVE
TO REGRET CATCHING...

WE'VE GOT ANOTHER
GOLDEN SPIDER! LET'S
GET MOVING!

THE POACHER'S SPACESHIP
SLIDES DOWN THE GREAT
CHUTE! AND AFTER SPLASH-
ING INTO THE RIVER AND
SUBMERGING...

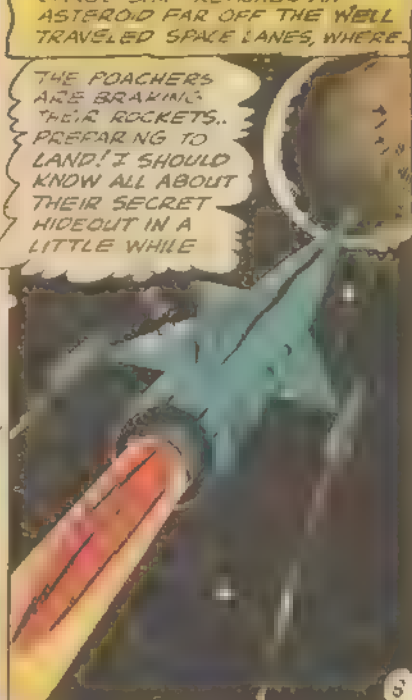
SHORTLY AS A WORRIED
SPACE RANGER SEES
THE HORIZON...

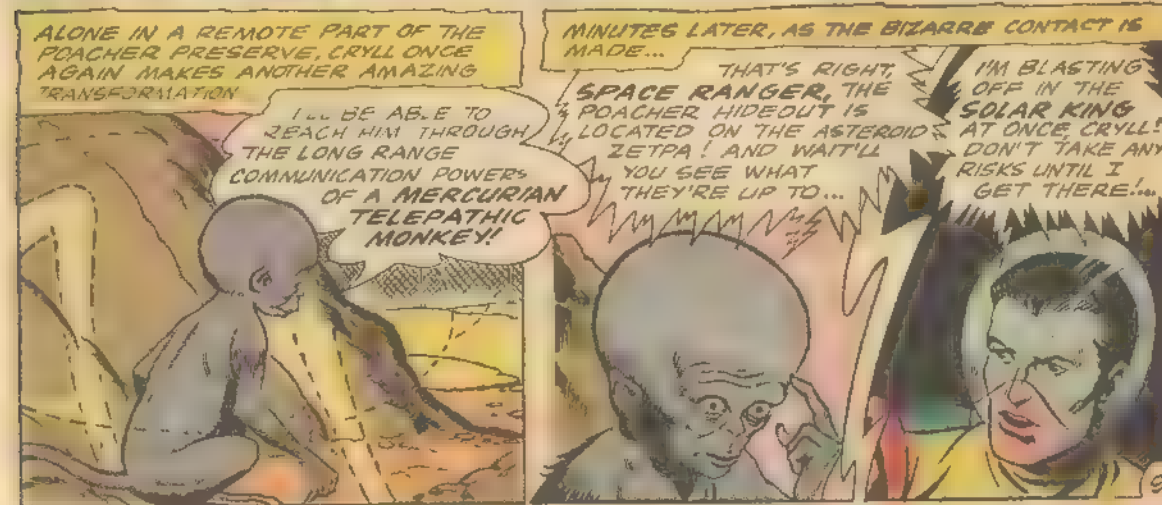
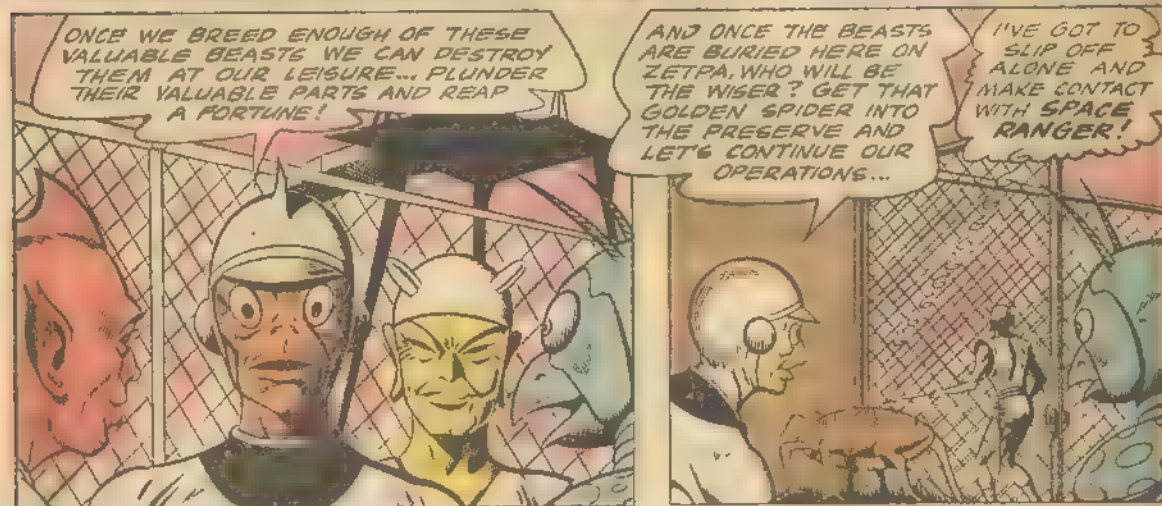
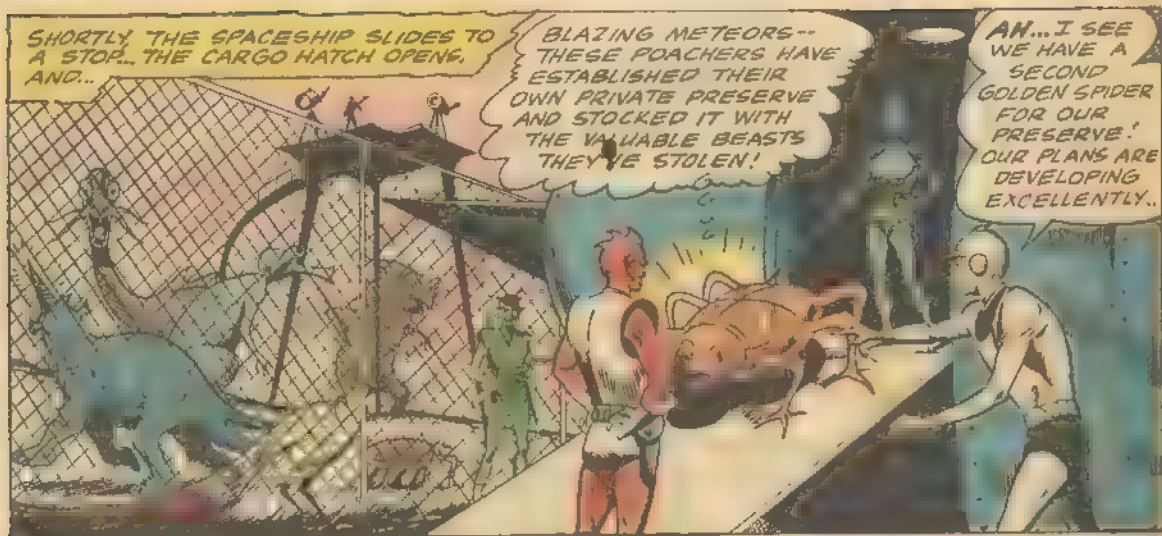
THERE IT GOES--
SPACEBOUND
WITH LITTLE
CRYLL! NOTHING
TO DO NOW
BUT WAIT
WORD FROM
H.M... IF IT
EVER COMES!

HOURS LATER, THE CRIMINAL
CARGO SHIP REACHES AN
ASTEROID FAR OFF THE WELL
TRAVELED SPACE LANES, WHERE...

WELL, THE
POACHERS ARE UNDERWAY...
SLIPPING DOWN RIVER SUS-
MERGED! IT WON'T BE LONG
BEFORE THEY'LL BE
BLASTING OFF FOR THEIR
SECRET HIDEOUT!

THE POACHERS
ARE BRAKING
THEIR ROCKETS..
PREPARING TO
LAND! I SHOULD
KNOW ALL ABOUT
THEIR SECRET
HIDEOUT IN A
LITTLE WHILE





RACING TO THE ASTEROID,
SPACE RANGER LANDS
IN A REMOTE AREA AND
MAKES HIS WAY TO THE
SECRET HIDEOUT, WHERE

A PRESERVE... STOCKED WITH
THE STOLEN BEASTS! NOW I
GET THE PICTURE! HMM...
GUESS MY FIRST MOVE IS
TO LOCATE CRYLL, AND
THEN.

H-HUH...?
'VE
TRIPPED
AN ALARM!

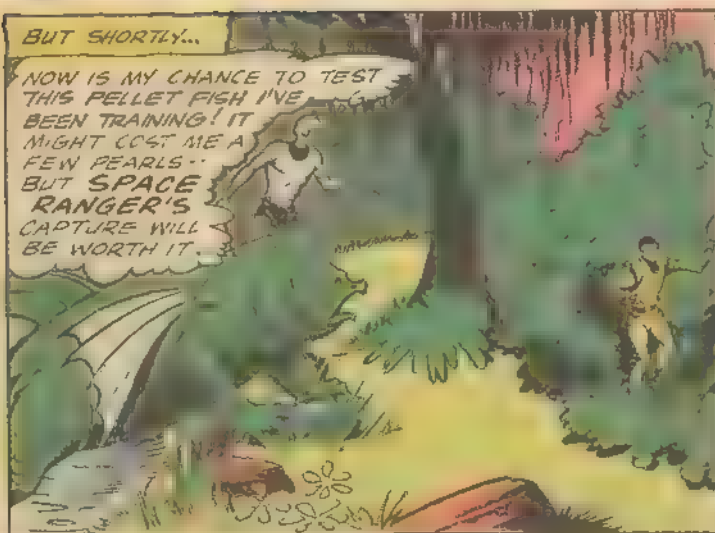
THERE'S
THE STRIDER-
SPACE
RANGER!
AFTER
HIM!

THEN, AS THE GUARDIAN OF SPACE
ATTEMPTS TO GIVE HIS PURSUERS
THE SLIP...

TOO MANY OF THEM
FOR ME TO TAKE ON-- AND
I CAN'T DODGE THEIR
RAY BLASTS FOREVER!
THAT SATURN SAND-
KICKER GIVES
ME AN IDEA...

A NEAR
MISS
SHOULD
DO
IT!

IT WORKED-- THE
FRIGHTENED BEAST
HAS KICKED UP A
SAND CLOUD THICK
ENOUGH FOR
ME TO GET
TO SAFETY..



BUT SHORTLY...

NOW IS MY CHANCE TO TEST THIS PELLET FISH I'VE BEEN TRAINING! IT MIGHT COST ME A FEW PEARLS... BUT **SPACE RANGER'S** CAPTURE WILL BE WORTH IT.



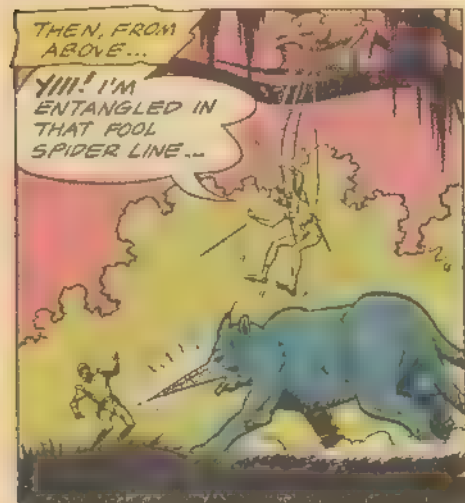
THE POACHER TAPS THE BEAST WITH HIS CANE-- SHOUTS OUT AND ...

THAT'S IT... FIRE YOUR VALUABLE MISSILES AWAY.



THE BIZARRE BARRAGE LACES THE AREA ABOUT **SPACE RANGER** AND ...

THOSE PEARL PELLETS... WHIPPED THE RAY PISTOL FROM MY GRASP... MADE ME GROGGY... AND THAT LANCITE BEAST IS COMING RIGHT AT ME!



THEN, FROM ABOVE...

YIII! I'M ENTANGLED IN THAT FOOL SPIDER LINE...



BE RIGHT DOWN **SPACE RANGER**-- AND WE'LL WRAP THIS GANG UP.

THE LANCITE, IT WAS THROWN OFF STRIDE WHEN THAT MOUNTED POACHER FELL! WHAT A BREAK.. CRYLL WAS BEHIND THIS...

ANOTHER REMARKABLE TRANSFORMATION
BY CRYLL TAKES PLACE, AND



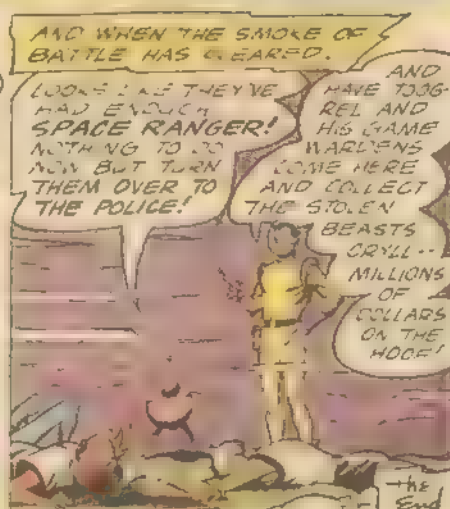
A NEPTUNIAN
THUNDERBOLT BIRD
SHOULD SHOCK THESE
POACHERS INTO
SURRENDER...
SPACE RANGER!

THEN THE TWO SPRING INTO ACTION



...ONES
YOU DON'T SCARE
I'LL STUN WITH
MY RAY BLASTS,
CRYLL!

AND WHEN THE SMOKE OF
BATTLE HAS CLEARED.



LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE
HAD ENOUGH
SPACE RANGER!
NOTHING TO DO
NOW BUT TURN
THEM OVER TO
THE POLICE!

AND
HAVE TOGG-
REL AND
HIS GAME
WARDENS
COME HERE
AND COLLECT
THE STOLEN
BEASTS
CRYLL...
MILLIONS
OF
DOLLARS
ON THE
HOGE!

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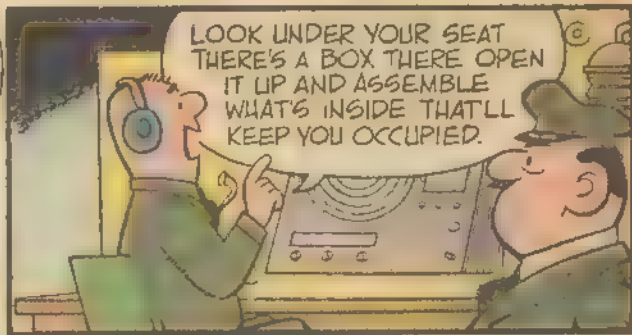
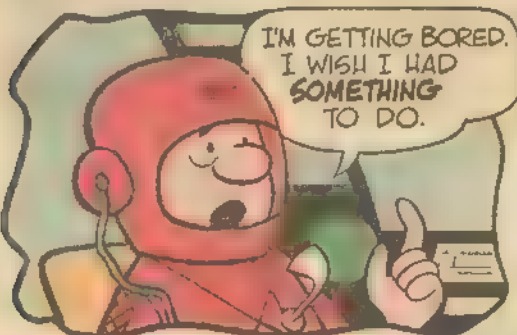


OCT. 29th

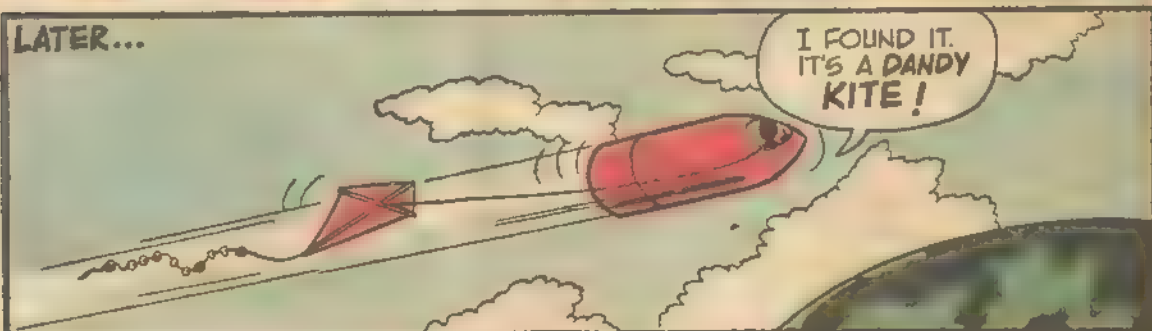
THE PLANET PALS

HENRY BOLTROFF

I'VE BEEN ORBITING THE EARTH FOR FIFTEEN DAYS NOW.



LATER...



MEET THE *NEW* Jonn Jonzz MANHUNTER MARS

AS HE BATTLES THE EVIL
MENACES RELEASED
FROM THE DREAD

Idol-HEAD
of DIABOLU in

ORCHESTRA DOOM!



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 3. How to Mold a BROAD MUSCLE-PACKED BACK and WONDER-WIDE SUPER-MAN SHOULDERS tapering to a SLIM PUNCH-PROOF WAIST.
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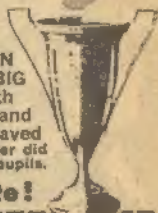
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YOU

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HE MAN

Ben Reihman

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BATMAN



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